

ALLED

*SIMPLY
THE BEST*
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*TRANSFORMED.
EQUIPPED. SENT.*
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◀..... **BEHIND THE COVER**

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.
Romans 11:29

The call of God can be confusing, sometimes even counterintuitive and a little frightening - and yet Jesus calls us. Regardless of the circumstances, regardless of what we see, regardless of the past, Jesus calls us. That idea is at the heart of our front cover design in this issue of Taylor. Just as Jesus took the hand of Peter on that stormy lake, we are called to take our Lord's hand and to follow him in spite of uncertain human circumstances, because God is good and does good. May we each follow Christ in obedience, hope, and a joyful reliance on his Holy Spirit.
He who calls is faithful.

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IN 2016**

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Founded in 1846, Taylor University is one of America's oldest Christian liberal arts colleges. Over 2,000 graduate and undergraduate students from 42 states and 30 foreign countries attend Taylor, where majors in 64 fields of study are available. For the eighth year in a row, Taylor University is the number one Midwest University in the category Best Regional Colleges in the 2015 *US News & World Report* survey, *America's Best Colleges*.

The mission of Taylor University is to develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ's redemptive love and truth to a world in need.



CHRISTIAN COLLEGE CONSORTIUM



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



DEMYSTIFYING CALLING

Therefore, my dear friends ... continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose. PHILIPPIANS 2:12, 13

I often tell people I took a year of accounting when I was in college - it was how God led me into journalism and communications. That joke works for biology, too. We get tied in such knots when it comes to our lives' callings. Whom should I marry? Where should I go? What should I study? It can be overwhelming.

There was a time when I thought my disobedience and half-heartedness as a young Christian had somehow short-circuited God's plan for my career. If only I had worked harder or studied more diligently, if only I had looked at accounting or biology differently, I might have been a doctor, a lawyer, or maybe a bank vice president. If only.

That angst can eat us alive. It robs us of the joy of the journey on which our Lord is leading us. We are God's workmanship, created for good works in Christ, which he prepared for us in advance. It is God who calls and equips us to do his work for such a time as this. The roadblocks I encountered in accounting and biology were the Lord's gracious provisions for my life. To lead me where he needed me to go, he needed to lovingly, faithfully lead me away from what I thought I ought to do. And today, I cannot imagine my life different from what God made it.

This issue of Taylor shares stories about some beloved members of the Taylor University community whose lives the Lord led to places where he could use them in unique ways - ways they could never have dreamed. He is good that way.

May we join in thanksgiving for God's amazing calling, equipping, and directing of our lives. And may we always remember that he who calls us is faithful.



James R. Garringer
Editor



LOVE IN RESPONSE TO HATE CHALLENGES NEW GRADS

Bloodied, beaten, and not knowing if he would ever walk out of that Mississippi small town jail, John M. Perkins admits he went to a very dark place where revenge and paybacks rather than forgiveness would be poured out on his angry enemies.

Perkins had fled his home state of Mississippi after his brother was killed by a town sheriff. After becoming a Christian, he returned to his home state and was active in voter registration, school desegregation and economic boycotts. After his arrest and beating by police in Brandon, Miss., he sensed God's tug at his heart to forgive.

The noted author and Civil Rights leader addressed a crowd of more than 4,500 during Taylor University's commencement ceremonies in the Kesler Student Activities Center on May 23. Perkins received an honorary doctorate for a lifetime of pioneering Civil Rights work inspired by his Christian faith.

"If I'd had an atomic hand grenade (that night), I would have pulled the plug. My reaction would have been just as bad as the action. That's when I saw (that) if we continue this, it's nothing but holocaust. And I began to remember what I had been taught – that the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation,"

Perkins told the hushed crowd. "Go into all the world and preach this redeeming Gospel to all the world. 'Behold I bring you good news of great joy which shall be to all people' because of the redeeming work of Jesus Christ on the cross."

"I longed, I could say, for a day like this in my nation, that you students here could be there, and I am here at this university that has been so good to you and to me, and the graduates from this university have been some of the friends who have joined me in my ministry," said Perkins. "And as far as I am concerned, friendship is the greatest relationship that humans can have one with another."

"John Perkins is an American hero. His life is a testimony to the redemptive power of Jesus Christ," said Dr. Eugene B.

Habecker '68, Taylor's President. "What a blessing it was to honor him and also for our Taylor community to meet him and learn from his godly testimony."

In addition to Perkins' award, Taylor officials also honored Professor of Political Science Emeritus R. Phillip Loy '64, and outgoing Board Chairman Mark Taylor, President and CEO of Tyndale House Publishers, with honorary doctorates. [T](#)

"I longed for a day like this in my nation, that you students here could be there, and I am here at this university that has been so good to you and to me." John Perkins

Marylou and Gene Habecker celebrate after Marylou was honored with the G. Roselyn Kerlin Women in Leadership Award in March.



Habecker to retire in 2016

Taylor University President Eugene B. Habecker '68 has announced that the upcoming 2015-16 academic year will be his final year as Taylor's President.

"Marylou (Napolitano '68) and I love Taylor University and its students, faculty, and staff," said Habecker. "Service in this role, fully committed to helping prepare the next generation of global Christian leaders, has been and remains for us the highest of callings. We look forward to having an excellent year ahead as we wrap up a variety of projects and otherwise do everything we can to enable Taylor University to have its best years ever under the leadership of our successors."

"The board along with the entire Taylor University family are truly grateful for Gene and Marylou's leadership at the university," said Wellington Y. Chiu

'74, Chairman of Taylor's Board of Trustees. "Great passion, compassion, mission-focus, and excellence mark their servant-leadership at Taylor University. While we are saddened to see them leave, it is with deep appreciation that we anticipate and support their next calling."

Prior to his appointment as Taylor's 30th president in 2005, Habecker served as president of the American Bible Society and Huntington University. Under his leadership, Taylor University has accomplished much of its long-range strategic plan under Vision 2016.

Chiu and Mark Taylor, past board chair and chairman of Taylor's presidential search committee, said a nationwide search is underway to locate Taylor's next president. [T](#)

MILESTONES

Raising \$180 million for operating, endowment, and capital projects

Construction of major campus facilities, including the Memorial Prayer Chapel, Euler Science Complex, and the LaRita Boren Campus Center, which is slated for opening next spring

Enhanced student living spaces with the construction of the Campbell and Wolgemuth apartment complexes and Breuninger Residence Hall

Major upgrades to Taylor's athletic and physical education facilities that include construction of the Eichling Aquatics Wing of the Kesler Student Activities Center, a combined football and soccer stadium and lighted practice facility, and refurbished Odle Arena, Winterholter Field (baseball) and Gudakunst Field (softball)

Establishment of the Spencer Centre for Global Engagement, Center for Scripture Engagement, Bedi Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, Center for the Study of CS Lewis and Friends, and Center for Missions Computing

Establishment of international centers, study programs and/or exchange programs with institutions in China, Ecuador, Ireland, Liberia, and South Korea

Comprehensive campus beautification and landscaping initiatives

Creation of a Strategic Directions 2026 document outlining future goals for the university

Eight straight years during which Taylor University has been ranked the number one Midwest university in the category Best Regional Colleges in the *U.S. News & World Report* survey America's Best Colleges

EXPONENTIAL IMPACT, FELLOWSHIP

A SHAKESPEARE SUMMER THEATRE CAMP FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, EQUIPMENT FOR TAYLOR'S GROWING KINESIOLOGY MAJOR, AND THE PURCHASE OF BICYCLES WHICH ARE USED AS ON-CAMPUS TAXIS BY TAYLOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS – IN JUST FOUR YEARS SINCE A GROUP OF WOMEN BEGAN BRAINSTORMING IDEAS TO HELP THEM FUND NEEDED PROJECTS, THE WOMEN'S GIVING CIRCLE (WGC) HAS RAISED AND AWARDED MORE THAN \$300,000 TO VARIOUS ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AROUND THE TAYLOR CAMPUS.

The Circle began with only 18 members. Today it has blossomed into a membership of nearly 70 members who listen to grant proposals from Taylor faculty and students, and then award funds ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Twenty-five percent of funds from the Circle go to scholarship aid for students.


"Consistently, the women have told me being part of this group has been a rewarding experience for them," said Sherri Harter, Executive Director of Development. "They have been able to learn in deep ways about our faculty and students, their passions and hopes, and have been able to see the excitement of having those hopes met in a tangible way."

Women's Giving Circle funding has boosted numerous Taylor efforts from the Academic Enrichment Center, Orphans and Vulnerable Children minor, and English language teaching, to the honors and public health programs, and Center for Ethics.

Harter related a story of how one faculty member tearfully expressed their gratitude for the impact the funds had made. "Members describe their involvement as mutually beneficial," she said. "Their giving allows academic departments to fund projects and buy equipment that surpasses what their yearly budgets can provide, and it also allows them to have a relationship with faculty and students, and a greater understanding of the depth and breadth of the Taylor educational experience."

"I think the Women's Giving Circle is incredible," said Jess (Wittebols '08) Rogers. "I think the Circle is a great opportunity to work with other like-minded women who care about the university and want to make a difference as a collective group. Rather than individual giving, the Circle allows us to pool that money together as a collective whole."

"Being part of the Women's Giving Circle and hearing the stories and meeting the people has been a reminder that God is doing great things in Upland and of the impact that Taylor students and faculty are having around the world," Rogers added. "They are going out and living out their faith - whether it is building a playground for kids, putting a mural on the wall in town, or spreading God's love to the people they come in contact with. It's Taylor being Taylor - it is going and being leaders out in the community."


Harter said the Women's Giving Circle annual membership drive is underway. 


FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
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#TAYLORU

SOCIAL


ONE OF SOCIAL MEDIA'S BEST QUALITIES IS ITS ABILITY TO SHARE INSTANTANEOUS INFORMATION WITH FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND LOVED ONES VIA TWITTER, FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM OR VARIOUS OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA. HERE ARE A FEW TWEETS AND INSTAGRAM PHOTOS THAT WE HAVE ENJOYED DURING THE PAST MONTHS.

 [@amylpeterson](#) "We can enter deeply into the pain of the world because we know God's love will sustain us." [@GregJao](#) at [@tayloru](#) chapel. Engage reality!

 [@jessibutts18](#) I don't think I say this enough... I'm so beyond thankful for my education at [@tayloru](#). It'll be sad to leave this place [#almostdone](#)

 [@rachelwalters57](#) I'm not even out of Upland and I already can't wait for all the sweet reunions in August. [@tayloru](#)



 [@istapresident](#) On [#CollegeDecisionDay](#) I want to say thank you [@tayloru](#) for prepping me to fulfill my dream of becoming a teacher.



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MAJOR FACULTY AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Scholarship, mentoring, sacrificial service – while those descriptions fit each member of the Taylor University faculty, three members of Taylor's esteemed faculty are recognized by their peers or the Alumni Association for work that has impacted the lives of countless students and, by implication, the world.



DR. KEN KIERS
2015 DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR
AWARD PRESENTED BY THE ALUMNI
COUNCIL

Dr. Ken Kiers, Professor of Physics, is the Distinguished Professor for 2015. It marks the 50th year the Distinguished Professor Award has been presented by Taylor's Alumni Council. Criteria for selection include at least 10 years' service on Taylor's faculty, demonstrated classroom teaching excellence, expertise in one's field, positive influence on students, respect of faculty colleagues, and visibility beyond the campus community.

Kiers' areas of scholarly expertise include quantum mechanics, mathematical methods in physics, particle physics theory, and Higgs physics. He was honored for his role in numerous research opportunities afforded to his students, and demonstrated excellence in the classroom and in professional efforts.

He holds a PhD from the University of British Columbia and a BS from McMaster University.



DR. MIKE SEVERE
2015 DR. JOE BURNWORTH
TEACHING AWARD

Dr. Mike Severe, Associate Professor of Christian Educational Ministries, received the 2015 Dr. Joe Burnworth Teaching Award. Named for the late, beloved Professor of Education, the Dr. Joe Burnworth Teaching Award was established to recognize distinctive faculty in their first five years of teaching at Taylor who exhibit great promise and have made noteworthy contributions to the academic and community life of the institution.

Severe, who joined the Taylor University faculty in 2011, was honored as a skilled professor who understands and loves the Bible and his students, and for professional contributions and youth ministry involvement.

He holds a PhD from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, an MA from Wheaton College Graduate School, and a BS from Multnomah Bible College.



DR. JEREMY CASE '87
2014 TEACHING EXCELLENCE AND
CAMPUS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Dr. Jeremy Case '87, Professor of Mathematics, received the 2014 Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award. The award is given by Taylor faculty and students to a faculty member who has made a distinct difference in the teaching climate of Taylor University in such areas as model classroom teaching, campus leadership, pioneering teaching methodology, creative course development and/or instructional support.

Case was honored for his innovative and engaging teaching practices, integration of the Christian faith with learning, and genuine concern for his students' holistic development.

He holds PhD and MS degrees from the University of Minnesota, an MA from Miami University (Oxford, Ohio), and a BS from Taylor University.



BELOVED PROFESSOR BIDS FAREWELL

A self-professed lab nerd, Andy Whipple confesses he always wanted to teach at a place like Taylor.

He's a passionate scientist, a believer in the union of faith and learning, and depending upon whom you ask, Dr. Andy Whipple '99 can be downright intimidating or just a big softie.

"I have this certain reputation - the freshman biology course is the 'weed out course.' Students will say, 'He's tough. He's mean,' and so forth," Whipple says. "By the time they are juniors and seniors, they are saying, 'Yeah, he's a softie.' All of that, I suppose, in a way is true."

After 31 years on Taylor's biology faculty, Whipple retired this year. He and his wife You-Ying are moving to the mountains of North Carolina where the self-described "lab nerd" will continue his work on azalea cultures, something that began as an inexpensive research project and has blossomed (both literally and figuratively) into a large garden near the Memorial Prayer Chapel.

While few people can remember precisely when they realized their life's calling, Whipple is different. "Somehow in elementary school, I decided that being a professor at a small college in a small

town would be cool. Now what kind of elementary school student thinks that?" he says with a chuckle.

In speaking with Whipple, even for a few minutes, his love for what he does is obvious.

"(I have loved) getting to interact with students who are not only bright, which most of them are, but have chosen to work at it, and now they are learning and they realize what 'lifelong learning' is," Whipple says. "It's one of Taylor's clichés, but there is really substance to it. It's like 'the integration of faith and learning' - yes, it's a Taylor cliché, but that is also at the center of what I have been about here."

It is that integration of faith and learning, and in Whipple's case, faith and science that has driven him for these many years - so much

so that he earned a degree from Taylor in Biblical Literature, graduating in 1999.

"The impetus was helping biology majors to get to a place where science was not the enemy, and hopefully getting to a place where they can see this science thing, in fact, when done from a Christian framework within a Christian worldview is absolute kingdom work and is what the church really needs to appreciate," he says.

"The physical realm was created and sustained, that means created moment by moment by a God, and his character is throughout that creation," Whipple adds. "(Creation) is the reflection of the reality of the expression of God's character in his creation moment by moment, day by day." [T](#)

SIMPLY THE BEST

WHEN JOSH DEGRAAF '15 AND ALEX BERENDS '18 WERE RESPECTIVELY NAMED THE GATES-HOWARD AND NATALIE STEELE AWARD WINNERS FOR THE PAST ACADEMIC YEAR, THOSE HONORS WERE THE LATEST IN A LONG LINE OF RECOGNITIONS ACCORDED TO THE TROJAN ATHLETES.

For DeGraaf, it marked the second straight year he was honored with the Gates-Howard Award, which is given each year to Taylor's top male athlete. DeGraaf was a right-handed pitching standout on Taylor's baseball team and was also recognized as the Capital One Baseball College Division Academic All-American of the Year (only the third Taylor athlete ever to win the award), and the Crossroads League Pitcher of the Year for the third-straight season. In June, he was drafted by the Toronto Blue Jays in the 31st round of the 2015 MLB Draft.

DeGraaf's excellence was evidenced off the field by his three selections as a Capital One Academic All-American and 3.92 GPA. As a senior, DeGraaf went 8-2 and had 81 strikeouts to lead all Crossroads League pitchers with at least 50 innings.

Berends' 2015 Natalie Steele Award, given to Taylor's top female athlete, came after a stellar freshman year during which she ran for Taylor's cross country and track teams and was named the Crossroad League's 2014-2015 Female Athlete of the Year. After only one year, Berends already owns three NAIA All-American honors, a pair of Crossroads League Championships, and four school records.

Berends also excelled in the classroom, achieving 4.0 GPA. As the highest finishing freshman at NAIA cross country nationals last fall, she was Taylor's first cross country All-American since 2006. Additionally, Berends was named the conference's Runner of the Week seven times. [T](#)





Josh DeGraaf (left) won 29 games during his stellar four-year career for Taylor's baseball team, recording 258 strikeouts and a 2.95 earned run average for his career – including 1.80 for his senior season.

In only her first year of intercollegiate competition, **Alex Berends** (above) was named the Crossroads League Female Athlete of the Year. She won the Crossroads League Championship Meet, earned NAIA All-American honors in Cross Country and Track & Field, was named NAIA National Runner of the Week, set the course record at Taylor's cross country course, and ran the second fastest 5K time in Taylor Cross Country history.

Strategic Directions 2026

Answering God's call to faithfulness and discipleship

BY DRS. MATT DELONG AND BEN SELLS

Since Taylor University's founding nearly 170 years ago, every generation has sought the Lord's direction for Taylor's future, recognizing that guiding and advancing this university is ultimately God's work, done through his enabling of people who care deeply about Taylor.



With similar intent, our 15-member Strategic Directions 2026 Steering Group was entrusted with the assignment to collaborate with the Taylor community to formulate difference-making Strategic Directions to help chart a course for the university, Lord willing, to 2026.

This process culminated in May 2015 with the release of the group's Final Report, which was sent to President Eugene B. Habecker '68 and received the formal approval of Taylor's faculty and Board of Trustees.

Our work to chart Taylor's future began with seeking guidance from the Lord and was informed throughout by the faith, knowledge, and wisdom of the Taylor community. In that context and with that spirit, the Steering Group sought to understand the history and foundational commitments of Taylor, as well as Taylor's role, current and future.

We had the enormous privilege of listening to the caring and thoughtful voices of the extended Taylor community. We were moved by their testimonies, touched by their deep

love for Taylor, and inspired by their vision for its future. In two years we engaged over 1,600 people in 81 gatherings on campus and in 19 cities, and we heard from an additional 700 students through a survey. All told, we received, assessed, and discussed more than 600 recommendations.

Taylor's Statement of Faith, Mission, and Anchor Points form the foundation for its Christ-centered community of scholarship and faith and must not change. They guide Taylor's every curricular and co-



curricular educational effort. In this, our Master Teacher is Jesus Christ. His followers, and his students, are known as disciples, and the lifelong process of being formed in his image, and prepared for life and service in his Kingdom, is known as discipleship.

Because disciple also means learner, Taylor's conception of learning is inextricably tied to discipleship. This reality differentiates Taylor as one of a decreasing few among the 120 members of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities that require incoming students to articulate a Christian faith. Therefore, it is fitting to use the word "discipleship" as a primary means of describing Taylor's distinctive approach to Christian higher education.

Believing discipleship to be the essential vocare (calling) of God himself for Taylor University, we restate and reaffirm that our focus on discipleship must not change. Discipleship at Taylor happens through a Christian liberal arts education involving both a rigorous academic program and a servant leader-oriented co-curricular program within a primarily undergraduate, highly residential, globally engaged, intentional Christian community.

The Taylor University experience is designed purposefully so students will grow to know what is true, do what is good, and value what is beautiful – to think, to act, and to desire as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Discipleship at Taylor University is cultivated in students by the interactions they have over the course of four years with academic faculty, student development faculty, staff, fellow students, alumni, and family.

These interactions are especially formative for undergraduates at Taylor because of a shared Christian faith, a liberal arts foundation, commonality in students' age and full-time status, a deeply committed faculty and staff, a highly residential campus, a unifying chapel program, coherence of Christian commitment among parents and alumni, and a rural setting that further fosters an intentional community.

The essence of the Taylor discipleship experience is woven into the fabric of our culture—the right kind of students having the right kinds of interactions with the right kind of faculty. When these are sustained and enhanced, by the enabling of the Spirit, they advance discipleship in the lives of students and thereby, over time, advance and fulfill the Taylor mission.

To that end, we lay out six Strategic Directions and guiding aspirations that are central to our mission, reflect defined or emerging strengths, and possess the greatest potential, when deepened and expanded:

CULTIVATING DISTINCTIVE STUDENTS

We aspire to strengthen our ability to enroll students, irrespective of financial need, who distinctively demonstrate the university's most cherished qualities: potential to thrive academically, commitment to discipleship in an intentional community, and desire to live out the school's mission.

SUPPORTING COMMITTED FACULTY

We aspire to be the preferred employer for committed, Christian, mission-driven faculty members who demonstrate academic excellence, the potential for distinctive contributions to the holistic discipleship of students, and personal calling to our intentional community.

STRENGTHENING FOUNDATIONAL EDUCATION

We aspire to be a community in which students participate in a highly integrated, engaging, and innovative liberal arts-based Foundational Core Curriculum.

EXPANDING SIGNATURE LEARNING

We aspire to be a community in which students participate in faculty-mentored, signature learning experiences, which are projects that involve firsthand engagement with a problem important to the student and to society; are conducted across a substantial duration of time; require significant inquiry, analysis, reflection, and writing; and result in a student-developed intellectual or creative work.

BROADENING GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

We aspire to be a community in which students demonstrate growth in their understanding, appreciating, and valuing of diverse cultures and peoples; their global knowledge and engagement; and their intercultural competency.

DEVELOPING VOCATIONAL FORMATION

We aspire to be a community in which students discover, develop, and apply God's vocational trajectory for their lives.

While the greater focus on holistic discipleship and the six Strategic Directions can chart a brighter course for Taylor's future, we recognize there is more work to do. The Strategic Directions must be translated into a strategic plan. We must consider the financial costs and steward current resources exceedingly well. And, building upon a strong foundation, we must further invite and call the extended Taylor community to lend even more of their time, talent, and treasure to advancing the Taylor mission.

The collaborative nature of this process, we believe, has yielded a deep reservoir of support for these Strategic Directions. We are hopeful about Taylor's future because of a shared desire among current constituents to bequeath a university to future generations that is at least as, if not more, relevant, rigorous, and "on mission" as the one we have inherited from our predecessors. Together, by God's grace, let us commit to advancing the Taylor mission – not for our sake, but for his glory and for the sake of those whom we are called to serve. **T**

Dr. Matt DeLong, Professor of Mathematics, and Dr. Ben Sells, Vice President for University Advancement, served as co-chairs of the Strategic Directions 2026 Steering Group.





CALLED

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

EPHESIANS 4:1-3



NOT SO QUIET AFTER ALL

Steve Hewitt (middle player), teammates and Hall of Fame Coach Paul Patterson watch from the bench.

BY KATE HEWITT



My legs felt wobbly and had begun to shake. I had been standing for five solid hours, greeting hundreds of people - students, athletes, coaches, referees, colleagues, friends, family and teammates. All were waiting to greet our family, pay their respects, and in some way process their own loss. Five days earlier, my husband Steve (Hewitt '85) had finished his work day, picked up our son Cam from his job, taken our puppy outside, and then headed out for a run in the woods behind our home on the western coast of Michigan. He never returned.

What we had not known was that Steve suffered from a condition known as sarcoidosis, and although I had been a nurse for almost 30 years, I knew almost nothing about this disease. Steve was among the two percent of those with sarcoidosis that impacted the heart. During his run, there was a disruption in the electrical activity of his heart, and it just stopped. Steve was found by a passerby and though there were attempts to save his life, he was gone. But he had prepared himself for this. Steve was in Heaven, and in the presence of his Lord and Savior.

One visitor tearfully told me how he helped them graduate from high school. Others spoke of his dignity and class as a coach. All of them shared our pain. What I could not help but be struck by was how unlikely this might have seemed 30 years ago. I met Steve when he was beginning his senior year at Taylor University and I was in my junior year at Marion College (now Indiana Wesleyan University). He was handsome, athletic, and played on both the basketball and baseball teams. While his public image was one of achievement and ability, I fell in love with his quiet, unassuming demeanor and his passion for the things that mattered, most importantly his faith.

He was a quiet person. To some, that quietness may have seemed awkward. When Steve decided during his senior year at Taylor that he wanted to go into education, people would often ask how he could teach when he seemed so quiet. But this did not deter him.

Steve taught and coached as he earned a master's degree in counseling at Indiana University. After the Lord called us to Grand Haven, Mich., he served as a teacher, counselor, and a cross country and basketball coach at the local high school. Until the day he died, Steve dedicated himself to his profession.

Steve's passion for others came from his own life experiences. Steve's father was an exceptional man - his dedication to his family and life's calling were expressed by the active role he embraced in his local community. Steve was also inspired by his brother Clark. They shared a love of sports, but Steve was especially intrigued by the change he saw in his brother's life after Clark arrived at

Taylor. That deepened faith positively impacted every facet of Clark's being and Steve soon knew he wanted to experience this for himself.

Steve was only 17 years old and what some might describe as a "late bloomer" when he arrived at Taylor in 1981. When he walked onto the basketball team, he did not know if he would ever be good enough to play, but by his senior year, he was starting on a very good Trojans basketball team that, like him, had grown during those four years. As much as Steve loved his father, he was blessed to play for Coach Paul Patterson. Coach Patterson challenged Steve to not only be a great athlete, but to do all things the right way and for a purpose - to glorify God. Steve flourished in this system; his quiet, shy nature was well suited to Coach Patterson's way, and he never forgot the impact Coach Patterson had in his life.

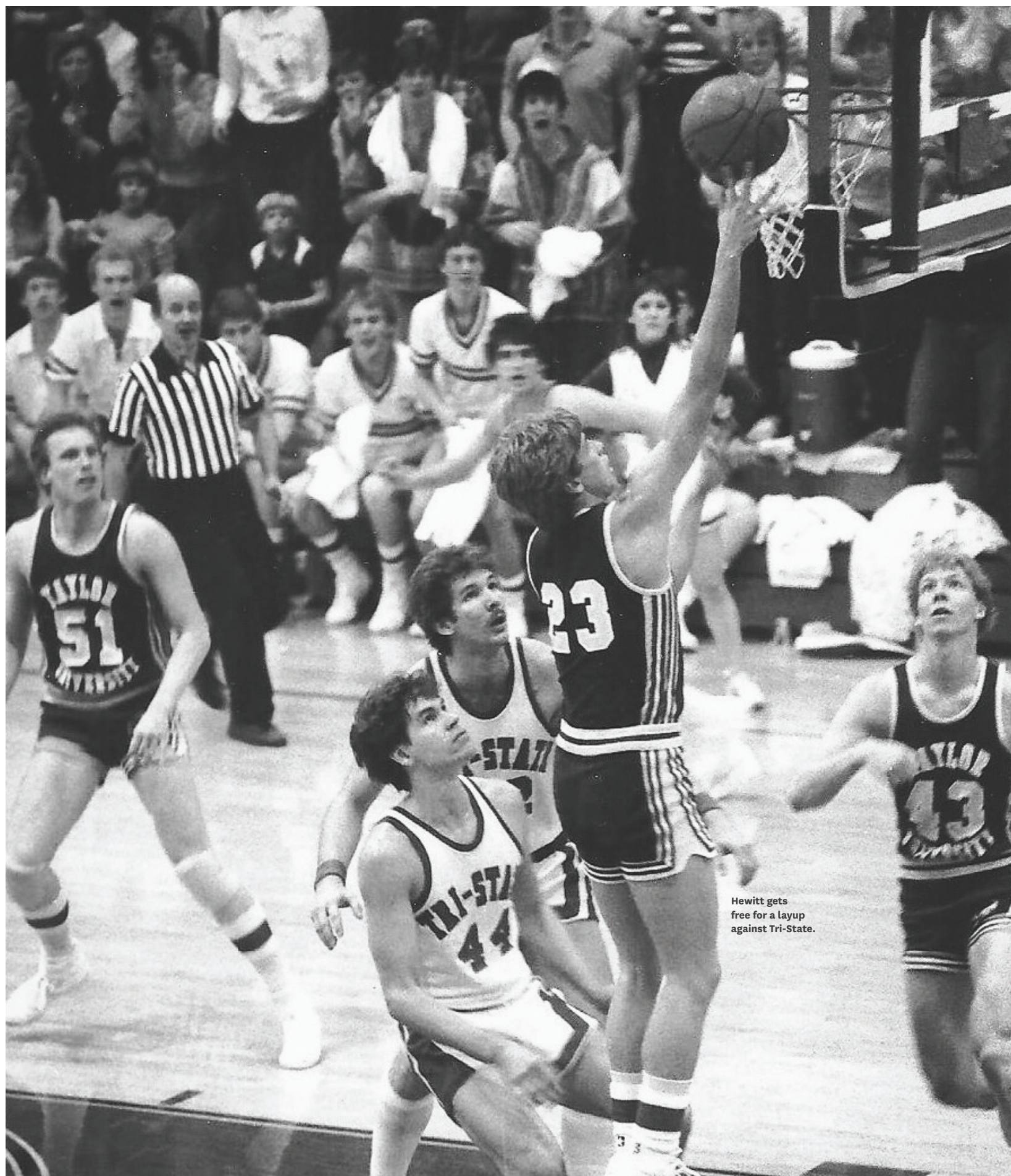
As Steve served as a teacher, counselor, coach and motivator, he consistently lived out the lessons he learned at Taylor. He challenged his students to give their best effort and to do all things with integrity and honor.

As coach of Grand Haven's basketball team, he built a winner. After getting only one win his first season, Grand Haven's team became a well-respected program that won its conference, several district championships, a regional championship, and made it to the Michigan state tournament quarterfinals. One of the more poignant moments for me at Steve's funeral was when a group of men approached me and said, "We are all referees and wanted to tell you that we so respected Coach Hewitt; he was a class act and we loved to ref his games."

Steve volunteered countless hours building a Grand Haven youth basketball program. He started a Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter at Grand Haven High School. But most important, he poured himself into our boys, Will, Cam and Drew, coaching them at every level, and even making annual trips to Taylor's basketball camp with them and many of their friends. Steve loved the purposeful way the camp taught the game of basketball and introduced the campers to the love of God. Each of the boys have some of Steve's qualities and share many of his passions. Today, Will coaches girls' basketball and is the varsity assistant cross country coach at Grand Haven. Cam was a freshman basketball coach last year. Drew will be a senior at Grand Haven this year and hopes to play in college. Each has enjoyed mission trips and worked in youth ministry.

And after more than 25 years of quietly, consistently, living out his faith, Steve's witness became loud and powerful. In fact, it was so profound that nearly 1,000 people made their way through the line that night at the funeral home - each waiting his or her turn to tell me how this quiet, Christ-like man spoke so boldly into their lives. Steve made them feel loved. He made them want to be better people. He took the passion that was refined in his heart during those student years at Taylor and expressed it fully as a husband, father, son, brother, teacher, counselor and coach.

When you think about it, he really wasn't so quiet after all. **T**



Hewitt gets
free for a layup
against Tri-State.



WHEN HOP THAT IS



WHAT IS LEFT



WHEN I MOVED
TO NEPAL
I WAS TOLD THAT
THIS WAS
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A POTENTIAL
EARTHQUAKE
AND THAT NEPAL
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A 'BIG ONE'

Kirk Schweitzer '10 was sitting in a third floor café when the building began to shudder. As he and his friends got their bearings, one said what the rest of them were thinking. "That's an earthquake." They ran down several flights of stairs, out of the building and into the relative safety of the street. Even there, the ground beneath them was swaying as if they were in a pitching boat.

The April 25 earthquake that rocked Nepal measured 7.8 on the Richter scale. In the coming days, dozens of aftershocks coursed through the shattered nation, culminating in a second 7.3 quake on May 12. More than 8,800 are believed to have died in the two massive earthquakes that were so severe, mighty Mt. Everest actually shifted three centimeters. Nearly 450,000 more have been left homeless.

"When I moved to Nepal, I was told that this was a hotspot for a potential earthquake and that Nepal was due for a 'big one,'" Schweitzer said. "Everyone was expecting something similar to what happened in Haiti (a 7.0 magnitude quake in 2010). We are so fortunate that the damage and loss of life was not nearly as bad as Haiti. However, it was significant."

Schweitzer is working in Nepal with Tiny Hands International, an organization that intercepts sex traffickers and their intended victims at Nepal's border with India. Tiny Hands was founded by another Taylor alumnus, John Molineux '02.

David Groves '14 had arrived in Nepal on April 12, planning to visit his brother Stephen '10. In the days after the first earthquake, the brothers joined in the seemingly hopeless task of recovering belongings from the ruins of houses and buildings for survivors of the disaster.

“Their homes are reduced to a huge pile of rubble and it’s hard to even tell there was a home there before. We dug through piles of mud rock and bricks and pulled out a few things that were salvageable. It’s really hard to see,” said David Groves. “There was not a lot of destruction in the town we were in when the earthquake hit, but coming to Kathmandu we have seen a lot of buildings and houses that are just huge piles of rubble.”

“The past few weeks have been a heart-breaking experience,” said Stephen Groves of his experiences since that first quake. “After the earthquake, I traveled to the villages where we work, and what I witnessed was very difficult. The people there have lost everything. Because their homes are made of stones and mud, they had no chance of withstanding the earthquake. They were lost and had no idea how to move forward. They had little shelter and had lost most of their food stores when they were buried under their houses. Many people also lost family members.

“It was really difficult to witness, but we immediately sprang into action to do something about it,” he continued. “We’ve delivered enough food and shelter supplies for 6,000 people to help them make it through the next few months, and we will keep working to rebuild.”

Stephen Groves’ reason for being in Nepal is similar to Schweitzer’s - he serves an organization named Five14, which also tries to stem human trafficking. Both Groves and Schweitzer said their respective organizations helped in whatever way they could, although their efforts seemed futile in the face of such massive need.

“We are not a relief organization. And our ‘normal’ work remains extremely important,” said Schweitzer. “We care for children. We have 11 children’s homes in Nepal. In fact, I just got back from a four-day retreat with our four Kathmandu children’s homes. We wanted to take them to a safe place where they could all relax and not have to fear another earthquake. Some are still sleeping outside in tents. We need to continue to focus on our children’s well-being as they are our first priority.



“Our anti-trafficking work may be more important now than ever,” Schweitzer added. “These types of situations only heighten the risk of trafficking. As such, we need to focus on this work.”

“I was speaking with one woman who was picking up the rubble of what was once her house,” said Stephen Groves. “As I spoke with her, I could see the sadness on her face as she told me about her eight kids, and how she didn’t know how they would rebuild. But then, in typical Nepali hospitality, she offered me a meal. I refused, but she insisted that I take a glass of milk, so I acquiesced. She swept off some bricks that used to be her house, spread out a plastic bag for me to sit on, and proceeded to serve me. Unbelievable.

“This has had a huge impact on me, and I am still processing that in many ways,” Groves continued. “It’s changed me in that I’ve seen people with absolutely nothing left, who have nowhere to turn and no hope. And yet, I know God cares for those people. He has not forgotten them. He doesn’t turn his face from them. He is there in their heartbreak.

“Many of these people call on the names of gods who don’t listen. In fact, many people blame the earthquake on the gods. But there is a God who does listen, and desires hope and a future for these people,” Groves said. “This is what I hang onto when all hope seems lost - faith that our God is good.” **T**





TRANSFORMED. EQUIPPED. SENT.

HOW DOES ONE SUM UP FOUR YEARS OF COLLEGE?

Accomplishments? Relationships? Life-changing moments? We asked three graduating members of the Class of 2015 - Sara Andler, Levi Boxell and Kehlay Dunah - to share their stories with us. We asked about their memories and accomplishments, and how their respective callings became clear. Most of all, we wanted to know what God has been doing in their lives.

Kehlay Dunah is moving to Portland, Oregon, to join The Fellows Program – a year-long internship program. ▶



TO KEHLAY DUNAH: WHAT DID IT MEAN TO YOU TO BE ELECTED STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT?

KD: I'm still trying to figure that out, actually. To me, it meant that I had come into this place, I faced my fears. I know that I'm not who I was a few years ago, because I was pretty shy and pretty insecure about a lot, and my time here has taught me to be more open and not be afraid. Being elected Student Body President was symbolic of that being recognized by other people – to trust me enough to let me represent them as their student body president. I've been honored. That is a lot to trust someone with, and they picked me.

TO LEVI BOXELL: DID YOUR FAITH INFLUENCE YOUR DECISION TO STUDY ECONOMICS?

LB: My first interest in economics started in high school as a senior. I interned at the Sagamore Institute in Indianapolis. I did research with them on economic development – it had been confirmed to me that I was interested in economic development, but I did not know what I wanted to do with it. Over my time at Taylor, that calling has been revealed to me.

My motivating reason for economics, specifically developmental economics, was we have a calling to care for those in less fortunate situations. My faith really informs that passion for helping others and understanding situation better in policy and applied situations. That is one thing that motivates me.



Levi Boxell plans to pursue research opportunities while earning graduate degrees at Stanford University. ▶



TO SARA ANDLER: IN DECEMBER AT SILENT NIGHT, YOU AND OTHER TAYLOR STUDENTS HELD UP SIGNS THAT READ, “BLACK LIVES MATTER.” HOW DID THAT COME ABOUT?

SA: It was a statement, not a protest. In proclaiming that black lives matter, you are not denying that other lives matter or that all lives matter. The situation was that the people who were hurting the most were black, and that was the point of us coming together as the Body of Christ and proclaiming that, no matter what our color is, we agree that black lives matter. I think it was very important that it was done at Taylor.

TO LEVI BOXELL: YOUR PAPER WON THE INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC ECONOMIC SOCIETY’S BEST UNDERGRADUATE PAPER COMPETITION – THAT’S AN AMAZING ACCOMPLISHMENT! WHAT WAS THE GENESIS OF THAT PAPER?

LB: It came from an econometrics class with Dr. Ken Constantine. I had a similar situation for a different paper I worked on last fall in an independent study class with Dr. Constantine titled *HIV Prevalence in sub-Saharan Africa: A Spatial Econometric Approach*. I submitted to the 14th Annual Carroll Round International Economics Conference held at Georgetown University in Washington. Eventually my paper was chosen



Sara Andler (right) believes God has called her to create an intergenerational ministry with senior citizens and urban kids or youth.

as most outstanding paper from the conference. I was kind of surprised. It is always hard to judge your own work objectively. It is a nice confirmation that I am on the right track for the future.

TO SARA ANDLER: HOW HAVE YOUR VIEWS OF MINISTRY AND OUTREACH CHANGED?

SA: I had thought I would be doing ministry and just check in with God. I realized it was completely wrong. It is God’s ministry and he has chosen to let me be a part of it and work through me. So it’s not me going, “Hey God, what do you think of me doing this?” It’s me asking God, “Where are you going to take me?” and making sure I am in constant communication with him and that this is ordained by him. That was a huge shift for me and it’s rather embarrassing that it took me so long to realize that. It was definitely humbling.

I had been part of an after-school program at home. When I went to

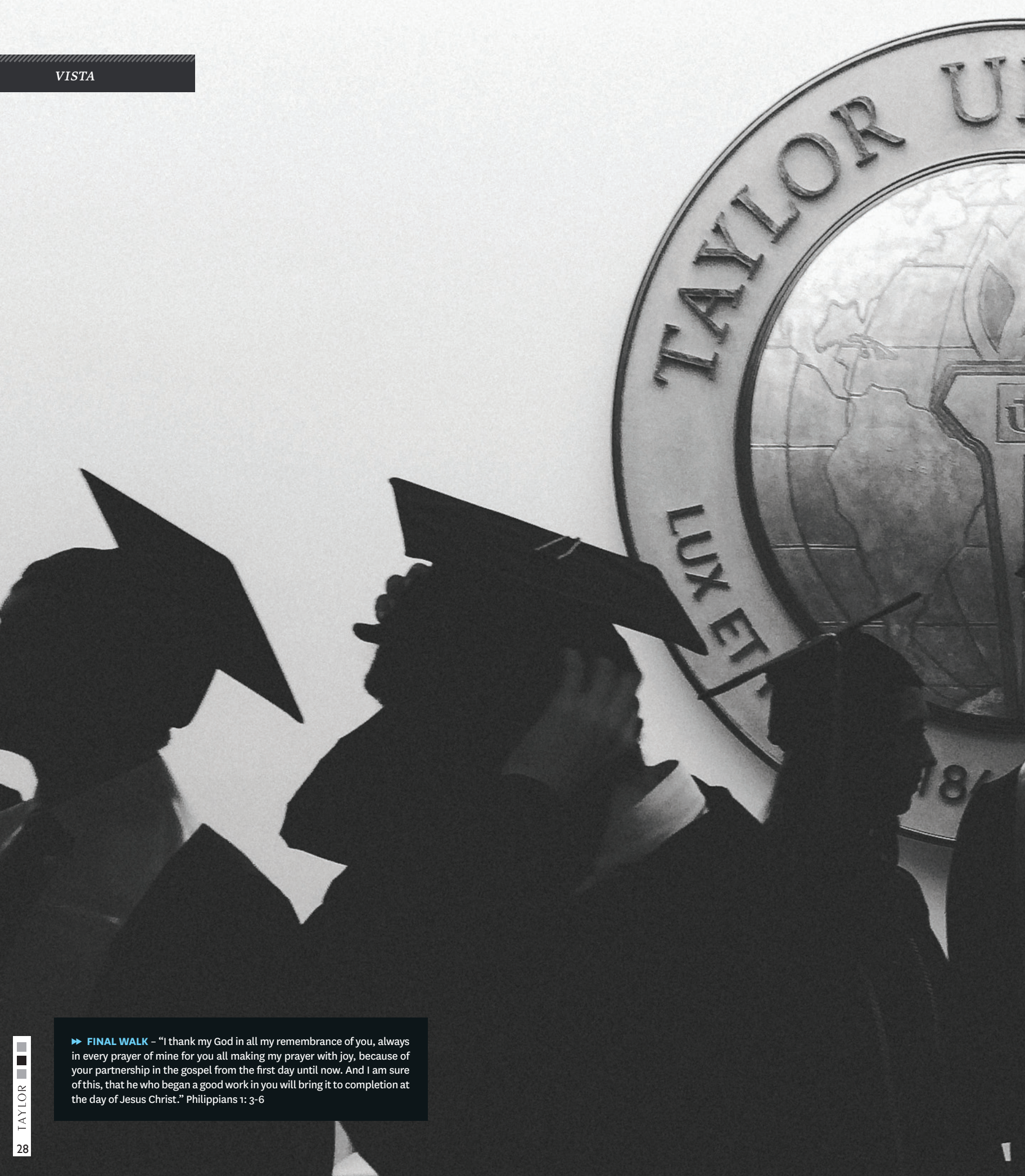
ReaLife, I felt like I found a piece of home. It was really comforting to me. I saw children interacting with each other regardless of skin color. This is what I had been longing for. I had told God I didn’t want anything to do with kids, and then I fell in love with ReaLife.

Looking at how God consistently brought those kids into my life and how they worked in my life, I always tell others, “A lot of people say these kids need us, but I need these kids the same amount, if not more.” There are still days where we have to break up fights or have to report abuse or we have to take a kid home and they are kicking and screaming and telling us they hate us.

My attitude toward transitioning out of ReaLife is to trust that God has taken care of it for the past 25 years, and he will continue to take care of it whether I am there or not. And the best thing I can do is to take the ways those kids have changed my life and let that be done somewhere else. ReaLife wrecked my plan, but it also better helped me see what God has in store for me and what I am called to do.

TO KEHLAY DUNAH: IS THERE ANY ONE BIG THING YOU ARE TAKING AWAY FROM YOUR TIME AT TAYLOR?

KD: The biggest thing I took away from Taylor is something I did not learn in the classroom – I could not get in a classroom. I’m taking away relational skills. I’m taking away what it looks like to be part of a community, what it looks like to serve, and I can’t read that in a textbook. I’m taking away experiences that cannot be explained. [T](#)



► **FINAL WALK** – “I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” Philippians 1: 3-6



ALUMNI NOTES

SUBMITTING ALUMNI NOTES IS SIMPLE... Visit taylor.edu/alumninotes to submit your alumni notes update and photos. Please remember to upload only photos including alumni and of at least a minimum resolution of 150 dpi or 4 x 6 inches. Notes can also be submitted by email at magazine@taylor.edu, by phone at (800) 882-3456 or by mail.

1944

01 Dr. William Green died April 13, 2015, in Newberg, Ore. He held master's and Ph.D. degrees in education from the University of Tennessee and during his long career served in faculty and administrative positions at Bryan College (Dayton, Tenn.), Taylor University, Malone College (Canton, Ohio) and George Fox University (Newburg, Ore.), including 15 months' service as interim president at George Fox. He is survived by his many loving family members and friends.

1948

Calvin Fleser of Zeeland, Mich., passed away on December 4, 2014, in Florida. Also a graduate of University of Michigan and University of New Hampshire, Calvin was a World War II veteran who served in the US Navy. He taught chemistry in Michigan high schools and was a baseball coach and member of the physical education faculty at Taylor. He retired after 20 years

teaching at Grand Rapids Junior College. He was also selected as a Fulbright Scholar and taught one year in Australia. Calvin is predeceased by daughter **Lynne '77** and survived by wife of 65 years, **Betty (Coats '48)** and son **William Fleser, Lt. Col., US Army (retired)**.

1949

02 Donna (Williams) Schmidt died December 2, 2014, just two days before her 87th birthday. Donna was the supportive wife of Loyal Schmidt and caring mother of sons Allen, Les and Steve. She served as a registered nurse, missionary, mentor, coach and prayer warrior. She also served with Loyal at Grace Mission in Henderson, Neb.

1951

Daniel Esau has launched a blog in which he reflects on culture, Scripture, the Gospel and other topics. Prior to coming to Taylor, he served as a paratrooper in WWII. Daniel has many fond memories of Taylor,

especially his three years of singing baritone in the Varsity Quartet, and during his 50th reunion in 2001, donated a 1613 edition of the King James Bible to his alma mater. He retired as a Postal Inspector 25 years ago. Read his blog at dansafterthoughts.blogspot.com.

03 David Rathjen died on February 22, 2015. He served as a Chaplain in the US Air Force for 30 years during which he traveled around the world and achieved the rank of Colonel. David earned the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, two Legions of Merit, two Meritorious Service Medals, and an Air Force Commendation Medal. In his retirement, David pastored several churches. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Katherine, three sons, and many other loved ones.

04 William Myers went to be with the Lord on March 20, 2015, only two months after celebrating his 90th birthday. Bill was married to Margaret

Veronica (Marsters) for 65 years, and the couple was blessed with three sons. During his college years, Bill was the quarterback on the Taylor football team that achieved the school's first win. He went on to a 40-plus-year career as a high school football coach and educator. He is survived by eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

1952

05 Rev. Donald F. Brooks died in New Holland, Pa., November 30, 2014. He was 88. Rev. Brooks proudly served in the United States Navy during WWII. As an American Baptist minister, he pastored churches in Nebraska and Ohio. Donald enjoyed traveling, hunting, tennis, racquet ball, golf, painting, photography, music, and having coffee with friends. He is survived by his loving wife Sharon, daughter Cheryl Ryan, and numerous caring nieces,

nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

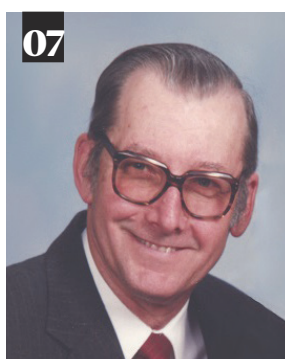
1954

06 Dr. Harold Draper, M.D., AFACC, recently began work as a medical advisor for a weight loss clinic on the Eastern Shore in Maryland. After his time at Taylor University and George Washington University Medical School, he served as a cardiovascular/internal medicine practitioner for 31 years before retiring from office practice to Easton, Md., where he currently lives with his wife Bonnie.

1956

Margaret Barton passed away at Francis Asbury Manor in Ocean Grove, NJ, in April 2014 after a battle with cancer. She is survived by a nephew and a cousin.

07 Rev. Howard Landes died peacefully in Peoria, Ariz., on February 26, 2015. Howard was ordained in



the Evangelical Mennonite Church and began his ministry in 1956. He faithfully served his Lord for over 40 years throughout the Midwest and on the East Coast. Howard is survived by his wife, children and their families, as well as many other loved ones.

1958

08 Ruth Anne (Edmunds) Rabine died March 3, 2015, at White Oaks Assisted Living in Lawton, Mich., after a 10-year battle with Alzheimer's disease. She is survived by her husband, **Jack '60**, who faithfully

cared for and visited her throughout her illness. Also surviving are children, **Julie '81**, **Mark '83**, **Jill (Rabine '86)** and **Kris Bullock '87**, Dave, and seven grandchildren. Ruth, a devoted wife, stay-at-home mom and grandmother, also taught freshman English at Taylor University from

1958-1959, was the first librarian for the Hudsonville Community Library from 1967-1969, and worked at the Mason-Lake County Library from 1981-1998.

1959

09 Classmates and spouses of the Class of

1959 spent a memorable afternoon together after the Taylor University Homecoming football game at the home of **Jay '58** and **Janie (Smith) Kesler**. While enjoying refreshments, they remembered and treasured their conversations

together. They cannot wait until 2019! And, just look how young everyone looks! Attendees included: **Sherry (Perkins) Gormanous, Marlene (Wilcox '60) Roth, Jan (McCarty) King, Rosalie (Clossen '60) Valutis, Cindy Valutis, Lurelle Rowell and Wayne Rowell.**

1960

10 We, the class of 1960, encourage as many of our classmates who are able to return for our 55-year reunion at Homecoming – especially since many of us may not be on this earth or able to travel for our 60-year reunion!

1961

Dr. Sue Dunham went to be with her Lord on February 19, 2015. Susie worked many years at Taylor University's infirmary with Mrs. Haakonson and also traveled to Africa as a missionary nurse.

1963

11 **Donald Kirk** died October 17, 2014, in New Britain, Conn. Donald married Judith (Davis) shortly after relocating to Plainville, Conn., where they shared 47 years of marriage and raised their two sons. Donald worked for SNET for many years before retiring in 1995. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his sons, daughter-in-laws, and beloved grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

1964

12 **Dave Kastelein** recently retired from nearly 12 years in pastoral ministries in Minnesota and 19 years as Executive Director of Pine Lake Camps in Iowa. He is enjoying time with his wife, Bonnie (Philpot), three children and four grandchildren in St. Francis, Minn.

William Madison has written his third book, *Reflections: A Life Story*, which is a story of a life struggle that ends in a deathbed conversion. Reflections can be purchased in the college book store or local book store.

1968

Chap Percival retired June 2, 2015, after being a classroom teacher for 41 years and teaching astronomy for 20 years. He has been documenting his final year in the classroom at 40downtogo.blogspot.com. Chap wrote a book, *Go See the Eclipse and Take a Kid with You*, to encourage people to go see the total solar eclipse of August 21, 2017, which will be the first of its kind in the United States in 40 years.

1970

13 **Terry Jordan** retired from Orange High School in

2005 after 35 years in public education during which he also coached track, football and golf. He was inducted into the school's Hall of Fame in 2013. Terry now works part-time at the President James A. Garfield Monument in Cleveland, Ohio (Lake View Cemetery). Terry has also written a pocket constitution book called *The U.S. Constitution & Fascinating Facts About It*, which has sold over five million copies. The book is in two different languages and is located at many national monuments as a resource.

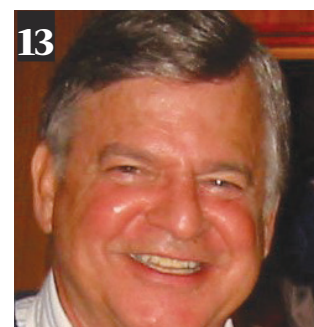
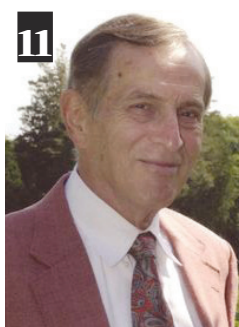
1979

14 **Diane Rawlings Meder** went to be with the Lord July 24, 2014. Diane held a Ph.D. in sociolinguistics from Miami University and was a successful business woman, using her talents to assist clients from small businesses to Fortune 500 companies in leadership

development, change management and executive coaching. She was also a licensed psychotherapist who helped numerous individuals, families and couples. Diane is survived by her husband, parents, sister, brother-in-law and several nieces and nephews.

1980

15 **David Close** earned his 500th win as a head boys' basketball coach on December 12, 2014, at his high school alma mater, Stow-Munroe Falls High School in Ohio. He has been a head coach for 30 years, 27 of those at Stow. At the time of this achievement, Close's overall record as a head coach was 500-179 for a winning percentage of 0.736. There are fewer than 50 coaches in the history of the OHSAA to have achieved this feat. At the conclusion of the season, Close received the prestigious Clem Caraboolad Coach of the Year Award, which



is given annually to one teacher/coach in any sport in the five-county greater Akron area for all-around contributions made both inside and outside of the classroom and athletic arena. David's youngest daughter Jackie '15 graduated from Taylor this spring after playing four years of volleyball for the Trojans.

1982

16 Tim Barnes, Dick Shepard, Bob Auer '83, and Fred Smith '83 had a reunion in Sarasota, Fla., in February. The friends lived together on First Floor Morris and have been getting together for the last 32 years.

1985

K. Scott Swan was awarded the 2015-2016 Fulbright-Hall Distinguished Chair for Entrepreneurship in Central Europe, at WU Vienna, Austria and University of Bratislava, Slovakia. He, his wife **Jodi (Helmus)**, and seven of their children (Truman, Drayton, Sutton, Holden, Hudson, Deacon, and Lincoln) will live in Vienna, Austria, from September to January. Scott is a professor of international business and marketing at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

1986

Jean (Morris) Grant, Associate Vice President of Advancement, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology has been selected to join an elite network

of more than 5,000 women as a member of the Leadership America Class of 2015. She is one of 40 outstanding women leaders competitively selected from across the nation to participate in the longest-running women's leadership development program in the US. Throughout the yearlong program, she will have the opportunity to broaden her perspective and enhance her recognized leadership skills as the program visits three of our nation's key cities.

1988

17 Martha Helen Gurd died January 6, 2015, in Albuquerque, N.M., after a long illness. She wrote poetry for many years and was a caregiver, student, teacher, and owner of Martha's Petsitting Plus in Bloomington, Ind. In the early 1980s, she often gave massages to people suffering from AIDS. She also worked as an Advocate for Middleway (an organization that helps abused women in Bloomington, Ind.) and escorted abused women to court. Martha had many warm memories of her Taylor University experience – especially of her trip to Israel.

1992

Matt Jarvis was named Vice President, Property Casualty Consultant by USI Insurance Services, LLC. He is responsible for sales and business

development, providing local expertise with national resources in the Indiana-Michigan market.

Christa (Ittzes) Upton suffered accidental toxic injury due to prolonged exposure to mold, which resulted in severe Multiple Chemical Sensitivity. She says God has been faithful and the time in bed helped her discover a new passion – writing. She has now written children's books and a blog where she shares what the Lord has taught her during this journey. She invites everyone to visit: blackhillspicturebooks.com.

1995

Mark Devanand Jonklaas, Ph.D., a senior lecturer in Baylor's department of chemistry and biochemistry in the College of Arts & Sciences, is the recipient of the 2015 Collins Outstanding Professor Award, which is awarded by a vote of Baylor's senior class each year. The Collins Outstanding Professor Award is provided by the Carr P. Collins Foundation to recognize and honor outstanding teachers at Baylor University and includes \$10,000, citation on a plaque, and recognition at the spring commencement as well as the recipient will deliver a special lecture on a subject of his or her choosing.

TAYLOR EVENTS

COMING UP

OCTOBER 9-11, 2015 PARENTS & FAMILY WEEKEND

We welcome parents, family and alumni to campus for a weekend of fun events.

OCTOBER 23-24, 2015 HOMECOMING

Mark your calendar for Homecoming 2015, October 23-24. Return to campus and reconnect with the Taylor community through campus events, reunion gatherings, and visits with fellow Taylor classmates.

COMING UP IN 2016 HERITAGE WEEKEND APRIL 29-30

1997

18 Brian Lynn married Celia Padilla on July 7, 2012, in the city of Chihuahua, located in the Mexican state of Chihuahua, where they now live and work for international companies in the area of finance.

1999

19 Ben Irwin recently published his first children's book, *The Story of King Jesus*, with David C. Cook. Designed for children ages 4 through 8, the book presents the Gospel as a single narrative so readers can see the whole biblical story and their part in it.

2001

20 Chris Corwin married Bonnie Sorensen on May 3, 2014. The couple resides in Iowa City, Iowa.

2002

In November 2014, **Eric Davis** joined the staff at Mount Zion Baptist Church in Columbus, Mo., as their youth pastor. He works with young people from sixth grade through college and early career.

2004

21 Ashley Boyer married Tyler Hendley on March 14, 2015. **Lauren (Barth) Woods** was in the bridal party. Other alumni in

attendance included **Laura (Keffer) Berlin**, **Brady Berlin**, **Gabrielle (Long) Cressman**, and **Jean (Dunbar) Davis**.

22 Brian Terpstra married Ashley Schumann in Chattanooga, Tenn., on June 7, 2014. Alumni serving as groomsmen included **Drew Baker** and **Marc Goodwin**. **Nathan Ehresman '05** and **Michael Kaspar '03** also took part in the big day. Brian teaches special education at Lookout Valley Elementary School in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Jeremy Williams has been named Vice President of Marketing and Communications

for 12 Stars Media in Indianapolis, Ind. Prior to joining 12 Stars Media, Jeremy worked at Fusion Alliance and the Indiana Office of Tourism Development.

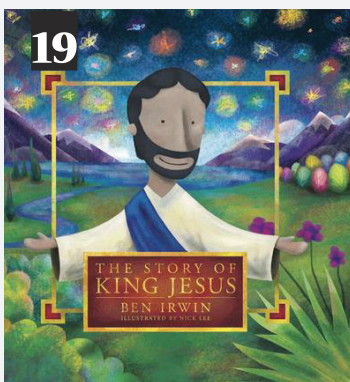
2005

23 Katie Baglien and Drew Smith were married June 7, 2014, in Fallbrook, Calif. They live in Tulsa, Okla., where Katie works as a paraprofessional in special education and Drew is a high school math teacher in an urban school.

24 Nathan and Liz (Linch) '06 Brooks welcomed Tiffany Grace into the world on December 31,

2014. Proud relatives include uncle David Brooks '10. The family resides in Bloomfield, Ind.

25 Nate and Brianne (Hillesland) Loftsgard welcomed Myla Taylor into their family on March 20, 2015. Big sister Kadley beams with pride when she's with her new baby sister. The Loftsgards continue to reside in Plymouth, Minn., where Nate is now working as a Software Engineer for Healthland in St. Louis Park and Brianne is home with the girls and enjoying serving in leadership with Bible Study Fellowship.



2006

26 Nathan Diepstra and wife Amy welcomed baby Graham Nathan on January 29, 2015. Big brother, Wes, is loving life with his little brother!

2007

27 The ISP Fall '04 "family" (plus spouses and kids) celebrated their 10-year anniversary of having participated in the program at Quigley's Irish Pub on January 24, 2015, in Naperville, Ill. In attendance were **Colleen (Ramsay)** and **Cason Wittig, Linnea**

(Edstrom) Moore, Laura (Rodeheaver) and **Adam VanGelder, Erin Tobias, Bridget McNamara, Katrina (Thomas) and Mark Roeser, Noel and Robin Birkey, Emily (Dvoratzcheck)** and **Aaron Hammer, Jen (Walsh) and Colin Craig.**

28 Laura Rizzo and Matt Tomcik were married May 24, 2014, in South Bend, Ind. They live in Yorkville, Ill., where Matt is a family medicine doctor at Morris Hospital-Yorkville Campus. Laura commutes to Wheaton College where she works as the outreach librarian. Taylor alumni

in the wedding were **Ben Harlan '13, Nathan Tomcik '16, and Anna (Clough) Macke.**

29 David and Heather (Young) Ricca joyfully announce the arrival of their son, Nathan Taylor, born March 10, 2015. He was also welcomed by two-year-old brother Benjamin. The Riccas live in Plainfield, Ill., where they are both public school teachers.

2009

30 Darcy (Miller) and Nathan Miller '08 were

blessed with the arrival of their son Cohen, born April 22, 2014. Nate is the head men's soccer coach at Spring Arbor University (Spring Arbor, Mich.) and Darcy is a stay-at-home mom.

31 Ashely (Bourque) and Kevin Peifer '08 welcomed their daughter Elinor Vada, who was born June 21, 2014. The couple lives in Minneapolis, Minn., where Kevin is a Business Systems Consultant for Wells Fargo Business Payroll. Ashley is a painter and received her MFA from the Minneapolis College

of Art and Design in 2013. Ashley hosted a solo art show at Indiana Wesleyan University in fall 2014 named, candy-coat, and had another solo show, sugar sugar, at the Burnet Gallery in Minneapolis in May 2015.

32 Nathan and Melissa (Baum) Miller welcomed their first son, Landon David, into the world on November 11, 2013. The family lives in Grand Rapids, Mich., where Nate works in IT and Melissa is the English Language Coordinator and Language Arts teacher for a local school district. Melissa received her master's degree





in TESOL in May 2013. The couple celebrated their fifth anniversary in October.

2010

Eric Rohrbach was recently promoted to the Risk Management

Department at Fulton Financial Corporation. Eric resides in Lancaster, Penn.

33 Christa Krehbiel married Ben Brandsen on November 21, 2014. Bridesmaids in the wedding included **Guisselle Del Salto** and

Alayne Bowman. The couple lives in Champaign-Urbana, Ill., but plans to move in December 2015.

2011

34 Lauren Arnold married Ryan Hutchins on July 27, 2014, at The

Orchard Evangelical Free Church in Barrington, Ill. Ryan is the son of **Lynn (Cavin '78)** and **Bob Hutchins '78**. Taylor alumni in the wedding party included **Jenny (Stringer '11) Browne**, **Mary K. (Smith '10) Wendel**, **Amy Trautwein**,

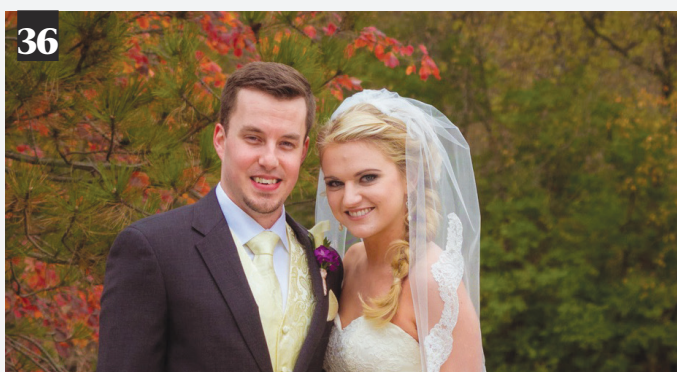
Kristen VandeBunte, **Stephen Green '04**, **Brandon Myers '09**, **Nate Pietrini '04**, and **Chad Oldham '00**. **Kaiti (Marsh '10) Myers** was a soloist during the ceremony. The couple resides in Chicago, Ill., where they both enjoy being teachers.



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35 Shannon Harris married Ted Lurakis on August 1, 2014 in Pittsgrove, N.J. Taylor alumni in the bridal party and in attendance included **Josh Cervone '05, Sarah (Sarracino '06) Lewis, Bryan Allingham, Rhett Goodmiller '12, Laura Garrity '12, Jason Harris '03, Darren Harris '06, Jenny (Stringer) Browne, Kristen VandeBunte, Kristin (Gunter '10) Balch, and Lindsay Dixon '10.**

2012

36 Katelyn Wills and Derrick Blyberg married

on November 1, 2014, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Wedding party members included **Caitlin Kaphaem, Sarah (Heath '13) Ketchum, Kayla Bedinghaus '14, Hannah Anderson '14, Bethany (Jacobus) Hahn, Lauren Wills '16, Laura Heath '16, Ben Evans, and Sean Ford '13.** Many, many friends and family came to celebrate with couple which also included a surprise for the reception entrance: Katelyn's dad had bagpipes playing Scotland the Brave.

Kyle DeBoth and his wife Tawney welcomed their first child, Landon James, who was born March 22,

2015. The family resides in Rochester, Minn.

2013

37 Sarah Heath and **Andrew Ketchum** were married in Milan, Mich., on September 13, 2014. Taylor alumni and students of all ages celebrated with the happy couple, including groomsmen **Paul DeVries** and **Eric Bartz**, bridesmaids **Laura Heath '15, Katelyn Wills '12, Lauren Wills '15, Emily Ogorek, and Lauren Mielke**, and many other members of First East Olson, the Taylor Softball Team and Second Center Wengatz.

38 Jamie (Schrader) and Daniel Hughes '12 were blessed with the arrival of a baby boy, Jude Michael, born August 22, 2014. He weighed 8 lbs. 13 oz. and was 22 inches long. The family lives in Marion, Ind.

Caitlin Black married David Fisher on January 15, 2015. The couple lives in Centre Hall, Pa.

2014

39 Austin York and Anna Bryars were married August 16, 2014. In the wedding ceremony, Austin used the Taylor servant's towel to wash the feet of his bride. The couple lives in Mobile, Ala.

40 Sarah Cespedes married Josh Cushing on April 16, 2014, in Harleysville, Pa. Alumni in the wedding included **Juan Cespedes '12, Kyla (Martin) Carneiro, Fabrizio Brito '16, and Ariadna Brito '17.** The couple lives in King of Prussia, Pa.

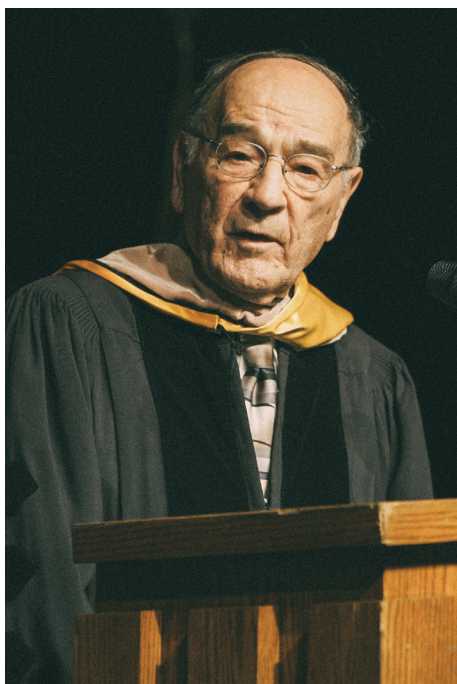


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BOARD OF TRUSTEES EMERITUS MEMBER PAUL ZURCHER DIES

LONGTIME TAYLOR UNIVERSITY FRIEND AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES EMERITUS MEMBER PAUL ZURCHER DIED IN MAY FOLLOWING A BRIEF ILLNESS. HE WAS 90.

Zurcher was born, raised and lived most of his life in Monroe, Ind., a small town near Fort Wayne. He was a veteran of WWII and was honorably discharged after he was wounded in the line of duty. His purchase of a single-bay service station in Monroe in 1948 led to Best-One Tire & Service, one of North America's largest and most profitable tire distribution networks.

Zurcher's service on Taylor University's Board of Trustees included service on the steering committee for Taylor Tomorrow, which at the time was the largest and most successful capital campaign in Taylor University's history.

He was a Sunday School teacher for more than 50 years and was active in his community. In 2008, Taylor University recognized Zurcher's lifetime of stewardship and faithful service when it awarded him an honorary doctorate.

Zurcher is survived by his wife of nearly 65 years, Betty, along with two sons, a daughter, six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.



LONGTIME TAYLOR FACULTY MEMBER DAVID NEUHOUSER DIES

PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS EMERITUS AND THE FOUNDER OF THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF C.S. LEWIS AND FRIENDS DAVID NEUHOUSER DIED IN APRIL FOLLOWING A SUDDEN ILLNESS.

Neuhouser joined the Taylor faculty in 1971 and taught everything from calculus and algebra to trigonometry. But he always admitted that while teaching math was his chosen vocation, his passion was for the writings of C.S. Lewis.

Lewis, one of the foremost Christian apologists of the 20th century, was a professor of medieval and Renaissance literature

at Oxford and Cambridge Universities. A prolific author, his thirty book titles include such classics as *Mere Christianity*, *The Great Divorce*, and *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*.

Neuhouser read every one of Lewis' works, along with numerous other articles and commentaries on Lewis' life. Once when asked to name his favorite Lewis volume, he answered, "That's impossible, whichever one I've reread most recently ... one of the things that Lewis said is that if a book is worth reading once, it's worth rereading."

"*Mere Christianity* ... helped me to think through some of the paradoxes of Christianity, like the fact that Jesus was both God and man. But probably more crucial for me was the fact that God is all loving, all powerful, and yet there is suffering. There aren't final answers - but (Lewis) helped me come to terms with it."

A ROAD MAP FOR THE FUTURE

A ROAD MAP FOR THE FUTURE

Dr. Eugene B. Habecker '68

It is a story I have cherished and brings a smile to my face whenever I share it with anyone. When I was a senior at Taylor University in 1968, one of the requirements for graduation, even though I was pre-law, was that I had to learn to play the trumpet and give a recital at the end of the semester. In the coming weeks, I read music, learned notes, worked to push air through my lips in such a way that it would make the actual sound a trumpet is supposed to make, and finally, presented the recital in our beloved late Professor Barbara Carruth's fine arts class.

While the experience may not have propelled me into a music career, the uncompromising nature of the challenge made a lasting impact on me.

In a new way, I grasped the importance, breadth and value of the liberal arts experience and the critical role it was playing in my holistic development. Professor Carruth's class required me to go much deeper into an area of study that I would not otherwise have chosen. Neither Professor Carruth nor the rest of the faculty let us settle for shortcuts or easy answers. Those challenges helped create tools, priorities and directions that have allowed Marylou and me to grow in grace, guided by the Holy Spirit.

That experience, and many others like it, is just a part of what makes Taylor University so distinct. The liberal arts, discipleship-focused, globally-engaged components of the Taylor experience are at the heart of our mission. That is one of the reasons I am so grateful for the recent endorsement of our Strategic Directions 2026 document - first by the faculty and finally by the Board of Trustees. That document identifies six strategic directions on which the university will focus for the next 10 years.

Those directions, based within the context of a heightened focus on discipleship are: 1. cultivation of distinctive, Christ-following students; 2. the support of committed faculty who love the Lord; 3. strengthened foundational education; 4. the expansion of signature learning; 5. broader opportunities for global engagement; and 6. the development of vocational formation, emerged from a highly-collaborative process involving many stakeholders from our Taylor community.

We asked you, our alumni, faculty, students, staff and others, for your input throughout the development of this initiative. The document formalizes those things that have made the Taylor University educational experience so life-changing and transformational. In many ways Strategic Directions 2026 is the next iteration of a journey that started for Marylou and me when we were freshmen at Taylor University in 1964.

With God directing and helping us, we want to build on what Taylor University has historically been and take these facets of the Taylor educational experience to new levels. However distinctive they might have been in the past, they need to become dramatically more distinctive, more holistic, more inclusive, more embedded into the fabric of who we are as a university. That bodes well for our future, God helping us.

We invite you to join us in prayer and support as we move forward in the coming years, guided by the Holy Spirit, and in prayerful obedience to our Lord's will.



Dr. Eugene B. Habecker '68 serves as President of Taylor University.

When I graduated, never in my wildest dreams did I think of including Taylor in my will. When my husband, Mert, and I started attending Taylor functions, we fell in love with the warmth extended by the students and administration. Mert was led to establish a music scholarship in my honor as a surprise for my 85th birthday. We love giving young people a hand up and have also done so for many years through the Taylor Fund. I am proud of my two grandsons, Jake '07 and Josh '06 Edgerton, both of whom graduated from Taylor. How heartwarming to know that Taylor is still Christ-centered – the very reason I came! **Jeanne Barry '43**



Jeanne Barry with Taylor junior Daniel Morrison at last year's Scholarship Appreciation Dinner.

To discuss giving to Taylor through your estate plan, contact Mike Falder, Executive Director of Development, at mcfalder@taylor.edu or 765.998.5538. Read more online at www.taylor.edu/giftplans.

To make a gift to the Taylor Fund, go to www.taylor.edu/giving.

Taylor University does not provide legal, tax, or financial advice. We urge you to seek the advice of your own legal, tax, or financial professionals.





CRASHING DOWN

Workers dismantled the iconic entrance to the Rediger Chapel/Auditorium in June as part of the LaRita Boren Campus Center construction project. Officials say the remodeled Chapel will open after Thanksgiving, and the remainder of the Center in April 2016.



Join us in making the new Campus Center a reality!

Intentionally,
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